NUMB. CIX.

The GUARDIAN.

Pugnabat tunicâ ſed tamen illa tegi. OV.

Thurſday, July 16. 1713.

I Have received many Letters from Perſons of all Ranks and Conditions, in reference to my late Diſcourſe concerning the *Tucker*. Some of them are filled with Reproaches and Invectives. A Lady, who ſubſcribes herſelf *Teraminta*, bids me in a very pert manner mind my own Affairs, and not pretend to meddle with their Linnen; for that they do not dreſs for an old Fellow, who cannot ſee them without a pair of Spectacles Another who calls her ſelf *Dabnelia*, vents her Paſſion in Scurrilous Terms; an old Ninnyhammer, a Dotard, a Nincompoop, is the beſt Language ſhe can afford me. *Florella* indeed expoſtulates with me upon the Subject, and only complains that ſhe is forced to return a Pair of Stays which were made in the extremity of the Faſhion, that ſhe might not be thought to encourage Peeping.

But if on the one ſide I have been uſed ill, (the common Fate of all Reformers) I have on the other ſide received great Applauſes and Acknowledgments for what I have done, in having put a ſeaſonable Stop to this unaccountable Humour of Stripping, that was got among our *Britiſh* Ladies. As I would much rather the World ſhould know what is ſaid to my Praiſe, than to my Diſadvantage, I ſhall ſuppreſs what has been written to me by thoſe who have reviled me on this Occaſion, and only Publiſh thoſe Letters which approve my Proceedings.

(Price Two Pence.)

SIR,

'I Am to give you Thanks in the Name of half a 'dozen Superannuated Beauties, for your Paper 'of the 6th Inſtant. We all of us paſs for Women 'of Fifty, and a Man of your Senſe knows how 'many additional Years are always to be thrown 'into Female Computations of this Nature. We 'are very ſenſible that ſeveral young Flirts about 'Town had a deſign to caſt us out of the faſhionable World, and to leave us in the lurch by ſome of 'their late Refinements. Two or three of them 'have been heard to ſay, that they would kill every 'old Woman about Town. In order to it they 'began to throw off their Cloaths as faſt as they 'could, and have played all thoſe Pranks which 'you have ſo ſeaſonably taken Notice of. We 'were forced to uncover after them, being unwilling to give out ſo ſoon, and be regarded as Veterans in the *beau monde*. Some of us have already caught our Deaths by it. For my own part, I 'have not been without a Cold ever ſince this fooliſh Faſhion came up. I have followed it thus far 'with the hazard of my Life, and how much further I muſt go no body knows, if your Paper does 'not bring us Relief. You may aſſure your ſelf 'that all the Antiquated Necks about Town are 'very much obliged to you. Whatever Fires and 'Flames are concealed in our Boſomes (in which

per-

' perhaps we vye with the youngeſt of the Sex) they ' are not ſufficient to preſerve us againſt the Wind ' and Weather. In taking ſo many old Women ' under your Care, you have been a real *Guardian* ' to us, and ſaved the Life of many of your Co- ' temporaries. In ſhort, we all of us beg leave to ' Subſcribe our ſelves,

Moſt venerable NESTOR,

Your humble Servants and Siſters.

I am very well pleaſed with this Approbation of my good Siſters. I muſt confeſs I have always look-ed on the Tucker to be the *Decus et Tutamen*, the Ornament and Defence of the Female Neck. My good old Lady, the Lady *Lizard*, condemned this Faſhion from the beginning, and has obſerved to me, with ſome Concern, that her Sex, at the ſame Time they are letting down their Stays, are tuck-ing up their Petticoats, which grow ſhorter and ſhorter every Day. The Leg diſcovers it ſelf in Proportion with the Neck. But I may poſſibly take another Occaſion of handling this Extremity, it be-ing my Deſign to keep a watchful Eye over every Part of the Female Sex, and to regulate them from Head to Foot. In the mean time I ſhall fill up my Paper with a Letter which comes to me from another of my obliged Correſpondents.

Dear GUARDEE,

' THIS comes to you from one of thoſe *Un-* ' *tucker'd* Ladies whom you were ſo ſharp ' upon on *Monday* was Sennight. I think my ſelf ' mightily beholden to you for the Reprehenſion you ' then gave us. You muſt know I am a famous ' Olive Beauty. But though this Complexion ' makes a very good Face when there are a couple ' of black ſparkling Eyes ſet in it, it makes but a ' very indifferent Neck. Your Fair Women there-' fore thought of this Faſhion to inſult the Olives ' and the Brunetts. They know very well that ' a Neck of Ivory does not make ſo fine a Show ' as one of Alablaſter. It is for this Reaſon, Mr. ' *Ironſide*, that they are ſo liberal in their Diſco-' veries. We know very well, that a Woman of ' the whiteſt Neck in the World, is to you no ' more than a Woman of Snow; but *Ovid*, in Mr. ' *Duke*'s Tranſlation of him, ſeems to look upon ' it with another Eye when he talks of *Corinna*, and ' mentions

——————— Her heaving Breaſt,
Courting the Hand, and ſuing to be preſt.

' Women of my Complexion ought to be more ' modeſt, eſpecially ſince our Faces debar us from ' all artificial Whitenings. Could you examine ' many of theſe Ladies who preſent you with ſuch ' beautiful ſnowy Cheſts, you would find they are ' not all of a Piece. Good Father *Neſtor* do not ' let us alone till you have ſhortned our Necks, ' and reduced them to their ancient Standard.

I am,

Your moſt Obliged,

Humble Servant,

Olivia.

I ſhall have a juſt Regard to *Olivia*'s Remon-ſtrance, tho' at the ſame time I cannot but obſerve that her Modeſty ſeems to be entirely the Reſult of her Complexion.

This Paper is to be had of Mr. Yemes *under the* Thatch'd-houſe *Tavern in St.* James's-ſtreet; *Mrs.* Bond *at* Charing-croſs; *Mrs.* Bolter *and Mrs.* Dodd *near the* Temple-gate; *and Mr.* Round *in* Ex-change-Ally.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

This Day is Publiſh'd,

Mr. Pope's Ode for Muſick on St. Cecilia's Day. Printed for Bernard Lintott at the Croſs Keys in Fleetſtreet. Where may be had Windſor Forreſt. The ſecond Edition.

This Evening is continued the Sale of the Octa-vos in the Bibliotheca Selectiſſima; amongſt which are ſeveral ſcarce Books, Printed by R. Stevens, Vaſcoſan, Elzever, &c. And to Morrow Evening the curious Manuſcrips, many of which are up-on Vellum, in the ſame Library, will be Sold at the Green Door in the little Piazza Covent-Garden.

Any Gentleman, Bookſeller, or other, may now have the Lord Clarendon's Hiſtory of the Rebellion in 6 Vols. in 8vo; bound up with all the Heads; done from Vandike, &c. By the beſt Engravers, being near 90 in all, plac'd before each Character in the ſaid Books, and 3 Mapps ſhowing where each Action hap-pened, &c. Sold by J. Nicholſon in Little Britain, J. Murphew near Stationer's Hall, and M. Pomfret Binder in London-houſe Yard near St. Paul's: Where may be had Atlas Geographus for Europe in 2 Vols. Aſia in one Vol. and Africa is juſt finiſhed, No. 12 being out. Bibliotheca Anatom. 1ſt and 2d Vol. and the 3d and laſt will ſpeedily be out. Note, Thoſe that have the Lord Clarendon's Hiſtory bound, may have all theſe Heads, with every Trait, Speech, &c. mentioned by my Lord Clarendon, bound in 3 Vols. in 8vo.

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LONDON: Printed for *J. Tonſon* in the *Strand*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in. 1713.